89-013

Fatalgram

U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration
Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

MSHA 8000-7, June 87

Date

6/1/89

A 51 YEAR OLD CRUSHER OPERATOR WITH 1 YEAR EXPERIENCE AND 6 MONTHS AT THIS JOB, WAS KILLED AND A LOADER OPERATOR INJURED WHEN THEY WERE STRUCK BY THE BOOM OF A HYDRAULIC ROCK BREAKER. BOTH WORKERS WERE ATTEMPTING TO DISLODGE SOME ROCK THAT HAD BRIDGED IN THE CRUSHER. WHILE CLIMBING UP THE FRAMEWORK TO THE OPERATOR'S POSITION ON THE ROCK BREAKER, THE CRUSHER OPERATOR SLIPPED AND FELL BACKWARDS. WHEN HE TRIED TO BREAK HIS FALL, HE ACCIDENTALLY GRABBED THE LEFT SWING LEVER. THE BOOM SWUNG TO THE LEFT, HIT THE LOADER OPERATOR IN THE HEAD KNOCKING HIM DOWN, AND PINNED THE CRUSHER OPERATOR AGAINST A GUARD ON THE WORK PLATFORM. THE CRUSHER OPERATOR DIED AS A RESULT OF A RUPTURED ARTERY IN HIS LEFT UPPER LEG.

MEANS OF PREVENTION:

SAFE MEANS OF ACCESS SHALL BE PROVIDED AND MAINTAINED TO ALL WORKING PLACES.

56.1101

TWO ADDITIONAL MEANS OF PREVENTION WERE IMPLEMENTED AS A RESULT OF THE ACCIDENT:
- THE START-STOP SWITCH WAS MOVED OVER NEAR THE OPERATOR'S CONTROLS.

14.026

- A FOOT OPERATED DEAD MAN SWITCH WAS INSTALLED TO PREVENT THE BOOM FROM BEING MOVED UNLESS THE OPERATOR WAS IN THE OPERATOR'S SEAT.

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"Preliminary Data"

Death Toll — Period Covered: January - February

Year	Underground	Surface	Mills	Total
1988	0	1	2	3
1989	3	5	2	10

Do Your Part to Keep the Toll Down!
Safety is Everybody's Business

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
MINE SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
Metal & Nonmetal Mine Health & Safety
P.O. Box 25367
Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

U.S.DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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